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Fact Sheet

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program

The *HMA Letter of Intent (LOI)* is available from the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security

All PDM grant applications must be submitted through FEMA's E-Grants system

http://portal.fema.gov

The Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) is available on an annual basis for costeffective measures that reduce the risk of flood damage to structures that have flood insurance coverage. Funding is available for flood mitigation planning and implementation of flood mitigation projects. The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (BHS) administers the program and is responsible for selecting projects for funding. BHS forwards selected applications to FEMA for eligibility determination. Individuals cannot apply directly for FMA funds, although their local government may submit an application on their behalf.

Available Funding:

Annual funding is provided through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and can vary from year to year. All grants require a 25% non-federal match, only half of which can be provided by in-kind contributions.

The FMA program priority is to fund flood mitigation projects that reduce the number of repetitive loss structures currently insured by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), although any cost-effective flood mitigation activity that reduce flood losses to any NFIP-insured property will be considered.

IDAHO BUREAU OF HOMELAND SECURITY FMA FACT SHEET

Project Eligibility:

For a community to be considered for project funds, it must have 1) a FEMA-approved flood hazard reduction plan or a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that meets the criteria of 44 CFR Part 78.5, and 2) be a participant in good standing in the NFIP.

FMA funds can be used for the following plans and projects:

- Acquiring or relocating insured structures to reduce claims on the NFIP.
- Elevating insured residential structures above the 100-year flood.
- Elevating or dry flood proofing insured non-residential structures.
- Drainage projects that protect NFIP insured properties.

All properties involved in an FMA-funded project must have NFIP insurance at the time of project application.

INELIGIBLE PROJECTS:

In addition to the specific ineligible project activities listed below, any proposed activity that duplicates benefits received for the same purpose or that is within the primary authority of another federal program are ineligible for funding under FMA. The following project activities are not eligible for the FMA grant program:

- Major flood control and/or erosion projects such as the construction or repair of dikes, levees, floodwalls, seawalls, groins, jetties, breakwaters, dams, and waterway channelization.
- Dry flood proofing of residential structures.
- Phased or partial project that is dependent on another phase or part to be effective and/or feasible.
- Demolition of an existing structure and rebuilding a new structure on the same site (i.e., demolition-rebuilding).
- Studies that do not result in a completed mitigation project (e.g., engineering designs, feasibility studies, or drainage studies that are not integral to the proposed project).
- Flood studies or flood mapping.
- Projects that solely address maintenance or repairs of existing structures, facilities or infrastructure (e.g., debris removal, dredging).
- Generators, and related equipment, such as generator hook-ups, for non-critical facilities or as a stand-alone activity.
- Response and communication equipment, and warning and alert notification systems (e.g., NOAA weather radios).

Project Eligibility Requirements:

- Cost-effectiveness using a FEMA-approved Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA). A project with a benefit-cost ratio of 1.0 or greater is considered cost effective.
- All individual properties to be mitigated must have NFIP insurance at the time of project application.
- Conformance with 44 CFR Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, and 44 CFR Part 10, and any applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- Technical feasibility and the ability to be implemented.
- Conformance with the minimum standards of the NFIP Floodplain Management Regulations.
- Conformance with the FEMA-approved flood mitigation plan or flood hazard component of the community's FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan, (the type of project being proposed must be identified in the plan), where the plan is approved by FEMA by the application deadline.

IDAHO BUREAU OF HOMELAND SECURITY FMA FACT SHEET

- Located in a community participating and in good standing in the NFIP.
- Solving of a problem independently or constituting a functional portion of a solution where there is assurance that the project as a whole will be completed.
- Meeting the requirements of applicable Federal, State, Indian tribal, and local laws, implementing regulations, and executive orders.

GRANT PROCESS:

- BHS provides program announcement and conducts application briefings.
- Letters of Intent (LOI) to participate in the program are submitted by eligible applicants no later than <u>Friday</u>, October 17, 2008.
- Complete PDM applications must be submitted through the E-Grants system by the close of business on **Friday**, **December 5**, **2008**.

Additional Information

BHS Internet site: www.bhs.idaho.gov

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